

The Collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

Volume 54, Issue 17

Monday, January 28, 2002

Wayne's World! Party time! Excellent!



Raymond Rodrigues (left), former provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, recalls working with Wayne Moore (far right), vice president for Administration and Partnership Affairs, during an appreciation luncheon for Moore on Jan. 17 in the Student Center. After serving as vice president for 16 years, Moore is stepping down on Friday to return to teaching.

Photo: Roberto Cordero/UTB

Members of Moore's staff—some sporting "Wayne's World" T-shirts—sing "You Picked a Fine Time to Leave Us, Wayne Moore," to the tune of the famous Kenny Rogers melody. Administrators and employees paid tribute to Moore for his many accomplishments.



Male college students' numbers dwindling

By Laura Meade Kirk
The Providence Journal

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—Nicole Besette, a freshman at Rhode Island College, was upset when she arrived on campus and quickly discovered that women outnumber men by more than two to one.

Fresh out of high school, she was

looking forward to the opportunity to meet new friends—including a fresh crop of men. But they're few and far between at RIC, where women comprise nearly 70 percent of the student body.

"There's like two boys in every class," bemoaned Ingrid Roth, 21, a junior from Coventry, R.I. "The honors program is even worse. There's like one

boy."

"It's disappointing," said Besette, 19, of Pawtucket, R.I. The lack of men not only affects her social life; it affects class discussions, which she believes could benefit from more male perspective. "It would just add some different opinions," she said.

But the numbers aren't likely to

See 'College,' Page 3

Enrollment, Student Affairs proposals are submitted

By Lily Kump
Staff Writer

If approved, recommendations by the task forces on Enrollment Planning and the Organizational Structure of Student Affairs will potentially promote the university's quality, success and availability.

The Ad Hoc Task Force on Enrollment Planning, which was divided into four working groups, consisted of a cross-section of university staff and faculty members who met once a week throughout the fall semester in order to assess needs in the key areas of Programs and Courses, Student Recruitment, Student Retention and Customer Service. The task force's suggestions were recently submitted to José Martin, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, for approval.

Among the dozens of recommendations by the Enrollment Planning Task Force are:

- Conduct customer service training to enable all employees to handle general questions.

- Permit and empower staff to make decisions.

- Ensure that the campus grounds and buildings are accessible for all students.

- Base class scheduling on needs of students.

- Establish a permanent Retention Task Force Committee to prioritize, monitor and evaluate retention efforts.

- Be sure that programs are accessible to target audience (day or evening or both).

- Establish an Office of Student Retention Services.

- Move classes 7 or 8 a.m., mid-afternoon and Saturday.

- Explore short-term funding to bring programs up to national norms.

- Increase quality control in upper division and graduate programs.

See 'Task,' Page 4

On Campus

Briefs

Entries for the Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest are due at noon Feb. 20 in SET-B 2.454, the Mathematics Department office. The contest is open to UTR/TSC students. Essay winners will be announced on Feb. 27 at the essay contest program, date and time to be announced. The topic for this year's essay is "Racism is declining in America, but class divisions remain." Defend or oppose. The paper should be two typed, double spaced pages with at least two sources. For more information, contact Deloria Nanze-Davis at 574-6636 or Jeffrey Coleman at 554-5045.

The Gorgas Science Society will meet at 12:15 p.m. today at the Shared Conference Room in the biology wing of the Life and Health Sciences building. For more information, send an e-mail to gorgasso-

ciety@yahoo.com.

The Learning Assistance Center will conduct a workshop titled "Studying for A's: Improve Your Memory," from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday in North Hall 122. For more information, call 544-8208.

KMBH-FM (88.9) and KHIID-FM (88.1) will conduct the "Winter Warm Up" membership campaign Sunday through Feb. 2. KMBH and KHIID offer National Public Radio news, classical, jazz and blues music. To become a member, call (800) 831-8360.

If you would like your club, organization or department news published in the Briefs section, please call Josie Chávez at 544-8263, e-mail her at collelgian@utb1.utb.edu or visit The Collegian office, located in the Student Center. The deadline for the Feb. 4 issue is 5 p.m. today.

Gem of a drawing



PAUL ROSAS/COLLEGIAN

UTR/TSC President Juliet V. Garcia (left) stands with Alicia Rodriguez and her husband, Ismael Rodriguez Jr., after Ismael won the drawing for the 4 carat diamond during the President's Reception on Jan. 17. The event on the South Lawn was part of the Welcome Week festivities and featured other giveaways, plus food and live music. The Rodriguezes are freshmen.



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The Collegian Spring 2002 Publication Schedule

Issue No.	Publication Date	Ad Deadline
18	Monday, Feb. 4	Monday, Jan. 28
19	Monday, Feb. 11	Monday, Feb. 4
20	Monday, Feb. 18	Monday, Feb. 11
21	Monday, Feb. 25	Monday, Feb. 18
22	Monday, March 4*	Monday, Feb. 25
March 11-16 Spring Break (no publication)		
23	Monday, March 18	Monday, March 4
24	Monday, March 25	Monday, March 18
March 27-29 Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Convention (no publication)		
25	Monday, April 8	Monday, March 25
26	Monday, April 15	Monday, April 8
27	Monday, April 22	Monday, April 15
28	Monday, April 29**	Monday, April 22

*Spring Break Issue

**Graduation/Final Exams issue

The Collegian Online
www.sa.utb.edu/collegian/

On Campus

College Continued from Page 1

change anytime soon.

Women have outnumbered men on college campuses across the country since 1987, and the gap has slowly widened each year. Federal statistics released this summer show that women now comprise 57 percent of all college students nationwide.

At UTB-TSC, 5,791 women are enrolled, compared with 3,649 men, said Anabel G. Salinas, systems analyst for Enrollment Management.

Some experts fear that if this trend continues, men could become a distinct minority on college campuses within the next few decades.

Men won't necessarily disappear from campus, said Thomas Mortenson, a national expert on college trends through his work as senior scholar at the Center for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education. "But I can tell you that we're going to continue on that trajectory for the foreseeable future because of the ways boys are not graduating high school, not going on to college [and] not completing college."

That's bad news for everyone, Mortenson said. He noted that although men make up 51 percent of the college-age population, they receive just 44 percent of the bachelor's degrees awarded in the United States. This is the steepest proportion since 1946, at the end of World War II, when men received 43.1 percent of bachel-

or's degrees—a number that jumped to 76 percent at the end of the war, with the passage of the GI Bill.

Mortenson said he expects that percentage to drop even further, to the point where men will receive only 35 percent of bachelor degrees within the next few decades, unless something is done to help men succeed in school.

The bottom line, he said, is that "Women have made simply stunning progress throughout the educational system over the last 30 years. Men have not."

"In a word, males are failing in the educational system," he wrote in a recent report. "They are failing compared to women, failing compared to the needs of a college-educated work force and they are most certainly failing to achieve the potential of their own lives."

It's great that society has done so much to help women succeed in school and in the work force, but now the same effort needs to be made for men—or we're in for serious problems in the years to come, Mortenson said.

"There will be twice as many educated women as educated men," he said. "But by the time they see it coming, it will be too late to address it. You do not manufacture college-educated men out of thin air. It takes decades of investment to get to that point."

Despite efforts to keep a balanced ratio, most colleges and universities are reporting an increasing number of women students overall.

Brown University in Providence, for example, has averaged about 54 percent women for the last several years, said spokesman Mark Nickel. And the Ivy League school is aggressively seeking women students for the science and engineering programs. Women are making inroads in these traditionally male fields, he said.

Jan Wenzel, spokeswoman for the University of Rhode Island, said about 58 percent of the students there are women, and they're more likely to be found in what used to be traditionally male majors—especially in the pharmacy program, where women have become the majority.

Providence College runs about 57 percent women to 43 percent men, said Christopher Lydon, dean of enrollment management for the private school.

"My sense is that men seem more attracted to larger comprehensive universities, and the women, partially because of the environment of smaller schools, often find it seems better for them," Lydon

said.

And even though more students are attending college than ever before, the increase is attributed primarily to women.

Mortenson said the number of college-age people ages 18 to 24 has increased from 5.1 million in 1967 to 9.5 million in 2000.

But during that time, the percentage of young men attending college decreased from 33.1 percent in 1967 to 32.6 percent in 2000, while the percentage of women in that age bracket attending college increased from 19.2 percent to 38.4 percent.

Nationally, college enrollment first hit the 50-50 mark in 1982, and remained constant until 1987, when women first outnumbered men.

And they're showing any signs of relinquishing their reign.

Mortenson said women are now breaking into every field—even those traditionally dominated by men. Women now outnumber men in medical and law schools, and they're increasing their ranks in busi-

ness, science and math programs, as well.

It's part of an overall shift toward the increased presence of women in the work force, and the societal shift to jobs that favor the talents offered by women, Mortenson said.

"Women usually have better social and communications skills, and they're better at networking, and these are the kinds of things that are important for success," Mortenson said. "The challenge now is to prepare little boys for jobs other than farming or construction or any of the old heavy-lifting jobs that men kind of held out and did well in for a long time. There is literally no future for boys who think they're going to get these high-wage, low-skill jobs."

So society has to push them forward in the education system, to retain gender equity in schools and in the work force, he said.

High school and college experts cite a variety of reasons for the gender shift on college campuses, from males

See "College," Page 6

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ADJUS-90-991

Tag game finals set, Scavenger Hunt to start

The Office of Student Activities will conduct its Mission: Impossible finals from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday. The remaining players in the game of tag will have a shoot-out in the Student Center to determine the \$500 winner.

After the Mission: Impossible winner is declared, Student Activities Director Vince Solis will announce the rules for the first-ever Student Organization Scavenger Hunt, which will have a grand prize of \$1,000.

Only student organization members can participate in the Scavenger Hunt. The hunt begins after the rules are explained. Items collected must be turned in to the Student Center by noon Feb. 16. The deadline to register for the Scavenger Hunt is noon Friday.

For more information, call the Office of Student Activities at 544-8264.

On Campus

Task

Continued from Page 1

•More personnel for student services, particularly Financial Aid, to provide outreach.

•Increase community involvement by including community members in campus events.

•Aggressively market our programs in Matamoros.

•Create a master plan that gives schools/departments both the responsibility and resources for outreach.

•Establish a student courtesy information center.

•Establish a permanent Retention Task Force Committee.

•Include campuswide retention efforts in the budget process.

•Establish campuswide procedures that produce course schedules accurately and timely.

Joe Zavaletta, an assistant professor of accounting who served on both task forces, said, "The goal [of the Task Force on Enrollment Planning] is to serve the stu-

dents better."

Zavaletta said the task force recommended many changes for improvement in areas ranging from better childcare facilities for single parents to a more organized registration process.

"We looked at the barriers that students might have [at coming to school]," he said. "One of the things we talked about was getting consistent daycare for students. A lot of single parents go to school part time and work part time. They have unique needs and we as an institution need to deal better with those needs."

For instance, a recommendation might be to consider providing childcare for just a few hours a day while a parent is in class.

Zavaletta said another common barrier is the availability of departmental offices after 5 p.m., when many students are on campus.

"A lot of classes meet after 5 and a lot of the department offices are closed, yet thousands of students are here every evening taking classes, some [of whom] can only

come at night."

Greater office hour flexibility would make the university more accessible to those students.

Zavaletta, who served on the working group for Recruitment, said, "The working group suggested a more student/customer service-oriented approach."

A "customer-oriented approach" refers to an approach modeled after the consumer world where products and businesses are organized, efficient, and of competitive, high quality.

"We're shifting to more of a customer oriented approach," he said. "Whether that's Web-based registration or redesigning facilities on campus [such as the new Student Union] ... We're trying to accommodate what students want. ... We understand that students have choices; they don't have to come to UT-Brownsville. We want our students to come here. So, we have to remember that the students do not exist for us; we exist for them. The faculty and staff are here to provide a

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quality educational experience for students. And everything else is secondary. The slogan, 'build it and they will come' is not true. ... We need to go out and tell them why they should come."

Increased advertising throughout the community is

another of the Enrollment Planning's recommendations.

Although Zavaletta is optimistic that changes will be implemented, he was slightly hesitant to state the specific proposals of the task force

See "Task," Page 5

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On Campus

Task

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because of the possibility of students having "expectations about what's going to happen."

Many variables have to be taken into account, such as budget and time constraints, before recommendations can be approved.

"Although there will definitely be some budget constraints, we were not told to consider the budget in restructuring Student Affairs," he said. "[So,] we're really not clear how it's going to shake out, what it's going to look like. It's a long process that requires the changing of some paradigms."

"Those are a few of the ideas—now it comes down to execution."

The Ad Hoc Task Force on Organizational Structure of the Student Affairs Division, chaired by Keith Ann Ragland, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, was asked to make recommendations for restructuring the division based on current

efficiency and the prospect of university growth. These recommendations were not available at press time. Neither Ragland nor Martin could be reached for comment.

Hilda Silva, interim vice president for Student Affairs, sat in on both the retention work group of the Enrollment Planning Task Force and the Ad Hoc Task Force on the Organizational Structure of Student Affairs.

Silva said the task of the committee on the Organizational Structure of Student Affairs "...was to review what Student Affairs looked like on campus. [For instance], if perhaps we have 20,000 students in the year 2010, what should Student Affairs services look like in the future?"

To understand possibilities, the task force looked at organizational charts from larger universities, Silva said.

"Are we going to need to make changes? For example, do we need more focus on orientation, more focus on support programs?" Dr. Silva

said.

John Ronna, who chaired the four working groups of the Enrollment Task Force, said that the university is reassessing needs and making recommendations because Olivia Rivas, the former vice president for Student Affairs, stepped down.

"When Dr. Rivas decided to step back into a faculty role a few months ago, that presented an opportunity to rethink things."

In reference to the Task Force on the Organizational Structure of Student Affairs, Ronna said, "The provost decided that... we would move the enrollment services to Academic Affairs upon an interim basis. That was done, with the notion that it's temporary. ... They are looking at what the shape of the Division of Student Affairs should be. Should it continue exactly as it was [enrollment staying with Student Affairs], or should enrollment services be split out or moved into Academic Affairs?"

As far as when the recommendations will be approved,

Campus Police Report

Four accident investigations, a theft and two reports of found property were among the incidents reported to Campus Police between Jan. 14 and Jan. 20.

At 2 p.m. Jan. 14, Campus Police received a report that a blue Ford Taurus accidentally hit a white GMC Sierra at the intersection of Ridgely Road and 21st Street. No injuries were reported.

Later that day, a white Pontiac Grand Am was hit by a car in the Tandy Hall parking lot. No injuries were reported.

At 2:15 p.m. Jan. 16 a car was accidentally hit in the Duffley Plaza parking lot. No further information was provided.

Later that day, Campus Police received a report of another minor car accident. A Mitsubishi Mirage was accidentally hit in the Tandy Hall parking lot.

At 5:30 p.m. Jan. 17, Campus Police received a report of theft from the Campus Bookstore. No further information was provided.

On Jan. 18 a custodian found a purse in SET-B, Room 2.246.

The same day, a custodian found a gym bag in Calvary Hall, Room 102.

—Lily Kinspe

there is no set date. Although, Ronna assures, "I would assume [José Martin] will review both very carefully and then take them to

Executive Council within the next few weeks. I know that he and the president are committed to moving very quickly on this."

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Register Your Student Organization At The Student Activities Office.

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On Campus

College
Continued from Page 3

dropping out of high school at higher rates than females (especially among minority groups) to females being clearer about their educational goals at earlier ages.

"The girls are much more focused early on about what they want to do for a career," said Judy Tucker, school counselor at the Feinstein High School in Providence, R.I. "They come in in ninth and 10th grade and they have plans for what they want to do when they get out of high school, where the boys start later—sometimes too late for them to pick up the extra science, math or foreign language [class] that will make them competitive at the college level."

Boys are also more susceptible to "distractions" on the streets, Tucker notes. They're more likely to want to hang out with friends, or get involved in other activities—legal and illegal—that they find more interesting than school.

Indeed, Mortenson said, a major contributing factor to the discrepancy between men and women on campus—especially among members of minority groups—is that more college-age males are being jailed than ever before.

"The United States has the highest incarceration rate in the world," he notes, and the vast majority of inmates are young men.

Then again, some boys simply don't want to go to college. They may find jobs, ranging from construction work to computer programming, that don't require a college degree. "If they've got a full-time job that's paying them \$10 to \$12 an hour, some of them may be opting for that," Tucker said.

But it's often a short-sighted decision, she says. "It's great for a kid in high school to make that kind of money, but 10 years down the line, or 20 years down the line, where is that job going? You can triple your salary with graduate degrees."

Still, it's tough to convince an 18-year-old computer whiz the value of a college degree when he's been offered "Blue Cross and \$30,000 a year," notes Louis Toro, who is director of guidance at Classical High School, a college-orient-

ed public school in Providence. But, he said, the computer industry is changing so fast that what they're doing now will soon be obsolete, so they can still benefit from college training.

There also has been an increased enrollment in the military in recent years—even before the new war on terrorism—in large part because of generous educational incentives offered to people who volunteer for the armed forces, in addition to the job training they receive there, Toro said. "We're seeing more and more opportunities for the military, with wonderful, wonderful college options."

And some students are definitely more attracted to those jobs now, in the spirit of patriotism, he and others said.

Still others are seeing a trend toward high school students enrolling in technical and career programs, instead of regular colleges and universities.

"That may be drawing a lot of the boys who don't want to be bothered with English and social studies and everything else. And many of these people going to the technical schools are going back angles," said Jean Larkin, assistant principal for student services at Cranston West High School in Cranston, R.I.

Others say boys are more likely to postpone college, preferring to go to work and attend classes when they're older or on a part-time basis while working full-time.

And money is a big issue, many note. College costs are intimidating to many families, and students are sensitive to these concerns. So they may be looking for less expensive alternatives to pursue their career goals. That's why many boys—as well as girls—may take time off between high school and college, or find a job where they can pursue their college degrees on a part-time basis.

Another significant reason for the shift in gender on college campuses is that more families are encouraging their daughters to pursue their educations than in past generations. The mentality seems to be, "I went to college and I want my daughter to go to college, not just my son," so girls have more of an opportunity

Club Spotlight

Name: The Ambassadors

Purpose: To promote the image and welfare of UTB/TSC. Ambassadors are identified as students having the potential to develop the qualities of leadership. The program is designed to expand these leadership capabilities.

Sponsor: Hector Gonzalez and Peter Ruiz

President: Marina Salinas

Vice president: Daniel Acosta

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Karina Villarreal

Parliamentarian: Oscar Medrano

Historian: Edna Salinas

Events: University tours, orientations. Ambassadors also usher at special events and are planning several community service projects.

Dues: \$5 per semester

Meets: 4 p.m. every other Sunday. Next meeting is scheduled Feb. 3.

For more information, contact: Marina Salinas at marina_salinas@excite.com.

—Compiled by Josie Chávez



Members of the UTB Ambassadors include (front row, from left) Edna Salinas, historian; Marina Salinas, president; Debbie Perez; Rebecca Longoria; and Oscar Medrano, parliamentarian. Back row: Daniel Acosta, vice president; Karla Gallegos; Erica Gonzalez; Monica Villarreal; and Hector Gonzalez, sponsor.

than they did in the past," Larkin said.

And the reason that girls tend to be more focused on what they need to be accepted into college may be the educational system's emphasis in recent years on promoting opportunities for women, to make up for generations of inequities.

"There's been more of a push to focus on girls and their futures," Larkin said. But now, she said, schools need to do a better job of teaching parents what is needed for their sons to succeed in high school and beyond.

There's not much else they can do to help boys get into college, she said. "We can give them the best program in the world, but if they're not committed to doing the work and studying and putting the focus on school as opposed to other things, where can we go from there?"

The Collegian is looking for volunteer reporters. If interested, call 544-8263 or visit our office in the Student Center.



Tiempo Nuevo

Opinión: El infierno de la búsqueda del cuerpo perfecto

Por **Hildefonso Ortiz**

Editor de Tiempo Nuevo

Abdominales, cardio, pesas, abdominales, cardio, pesas. Últimamente esas palabras son las únicas que pasan por mi mente, y probablemente por la mente de aquellos que se quieren ver bien para las vacaciones de primavera.

Todo comenzó cuando fui a probarme unos trajes de baño. Primero me probé unos shorts largos de color neon. Después de chapar todo el aire de la tienda y hacer volar varias gorras por la tienda en un intento por entrar en los shorts, por fin fui capaz de cerrarlos.

Los coros comenzaron a cantar mientras me pavoneaba al salir del probador cuando fui interrumpido por un ruido horrible. En lugar de escuchar un pip, fue el crujido ruidoso, tan ruidoso que toda la tienda volvió a ver mis glúteos maximos tratando de escapar por la resguardia de los shorts.

Después de pagar por la mercancía dañada, me probé unos shorts negros en un intento de esconder unas libras demás (gracias a las vacaciones). Incrediblemente me quedaron bien, y los iba a



comprar hasta que un niño de 2 años que estaba en la tienda gritó.

"¡Mira, mami, ese Shamó!" Rápidamente regresé los shorts y me probé unos mercedos solo para ser llamado "Bamey".

Eso era el colmo: necesitaba perder de peso para las vacaciones de primavera (claro que iba a volver a subirlo durante esa semana).

Entonces me inscribí en un gimnasio y contraté a un entrenador personal, Hans Schmüdhaufen. Este hombre hacía que Arnold Schwarzenegger se viera como un debilucha.

"Ja, yo te voy a inflar", dijo Hanz y así comenzó mi viaje personal al infierno.

Por lo tanto le dije adiós al dios de la pizza, destruí mi tarjeta de cliente distinguido

en los arcos dorados, y retiré mi membresía del club de cazadores de cerveza. Por los siguientes tres meses yo iba a sobrevivir en licuados y barras de proteínas.

"Empuja más fuerte hombreita", era lo único que escuchaba de parte de Hanz. Algunas veces me preguntaba si la CIA había usado a este hombre en sus interrogatorios. Ben-Gay y aspirinas se

convirtieron en mis mejores amigos.

Mi entrenador estaba tan centrado en "comer saludable" que hace dos semanas estaba en el Centro Estudiantil y decidí comprarme un De Pepper. En cuanto abrí la botella, Hanz entró destruyendo la ventana, quitándose la botella y gritando "¡No! Pagarás por eso hombreillo debilucha".

Y así fue, gracias a mi pequeña indiscreción. Hanz me hizo correr varias millas con su enorme Doberman persiguiéndome todo el camino.

Y pensar que yo me reía de las muchachas que se preocupaban por las dietas. Antes me sentaba afuera de las juntas de Weight Watchers comiéndome cubetas de nieve. También estaba de robando de pizza enfrente de los que se ejercitaban en las caminadoras y les decía que se las daba si me alestaban. Creo que fui un poco malvado pero no era a propósito. Hanz me ha hecho ver lo mal que es hacerles burla a las porristas y a los finísticos de la salud.

Prometo no burlarme de ellos. Nada más hagan que Hanz se vaya ¡por favor!

"¡Cállate hombreillo debilucha!", el grito.

Profesor del Mes

Por **Hildefonso Ortiz**

Editor de Tiempo Nuevo

Nombre: Jack Leff

Título Académico:
Profesor de kinesiología



Clases que enseña:
Fisiología del ejercicio, teoría de entrenamiento, salud de por vida, softball, baloncesto, y tenis.

Títulos profesionales:
Maestría en salud educación física y recreación, también una maestría en biología, ambas de la Universidad de Pan American.

Años de enseñar en

Kinesiología. Así que estoy un poco ocupado".

"¿Cuáles son sus metas a corto y a largo plazo?" "Despertarme todos los días con una sonrisa".

Si pudiera cambiar algo en el campus ¿qué haría? "Creo que empezaría con los estacionamientos. Nunca he estado en ninguna universidad que no suministre a su estacionamiento adecuado. En otras universidades los profesores tienen sus estacionamientos con sus nombres y si alguien se estaciona ahí se los lleva la grúa. Cuando era un asistente de postgrado en Pan Am, tenía mi estacionamiento con mi propio nombre. Los profesores necesitan una área donde se puedan estacionar adecuadamente."

UTB/TSC: 17

"¿Qué lo motiva? "Trabajar con los estudiantes, mi puerta está siempre abierta".

Pasatiempos: "He servido en el comité de los Días del Chorro por 16 años, también en el comité de la asociación de tenis de Brownsville. Soy el patrocinador del club de tenis escorpión, y me encargo del sitio del Internet del Departamento de

Llevándote la noticia



Trey Mendez y Alfredo Norberto

En El Collegian trabajamos duro para llevarte las noticias que son importantes para los estudiantes de UTB/TSC. Escúchanos todos los días en las televisiones del campus.

Sports

Scorpions ready for big year

By Trey Mendez
Sports Editor

If preseason honors are any measurement, this year's Scorpion Baseball Team figures to be significantly better than last year's. Before the season even began, UTB/TSC was already making headlines, with two players named to the exclusive list of "players to watch" in Collegiate Baseball magazine. Outfielder Marcus Townsend and shortstop Brian Lopes are the two players named, and figures to be integral parts of the team.

Four returning starters will join returnees Lopes and the transferred Townsend. The pitching staff will bring back Justin Sanchez, who played mostly right field for the Scorpions last year, and Ruel Garza. Sanchez, who will be concentrating on pitching, brings with him the ability to throw over 90 miles per hour, while Garza has already signed a letter of intent to play for Lamar University in Houston next year.

While Sanchez and Garza will be anchoring the pitching staff, they will get some help from former Lopez stand-out Julio Ruiz, a hard-throwing right-hander.

The offense will bring back Aldo Alonzo and Ignacio Orea

to complement the rest of the position players.

Head Coach Eric Gonzalez said the starting lineup was not quite set because he still needed to evaluate some positions. The first game for the Scorpions will be Jan. 30 vs. Laredo Community College in Kingsville.

Gonzalez will do his best to utilize the all-around combination of speed, power, pitching

"Some guys have a hitter's count and they try to go up there and hit the ball hard, but end up popping it up."

Gonzalez says that he and his team will approach each game like they are playing the worst teams in the conference, so as not to get too much pressure on his players.

"That's so that our guys won't be intimidated and aren't confident," Gonzalez said. "We need to score runs."

Gonzalez likes his chances this year, feeling that his team matches up well against the other teams in the conference.

"We look really good," I think we will be one of the favorites in the conference because we have

good talent. In the fall, we beat [Galveston College and Blinn College] pretty handily," Gonzalez said. "This year I think we have a better team than them."

As the season nears, Gonzalez will [have high expectations] from his young, but talented team.

"We're a confident team," Gonzalez said. "We have some good athletes and I am looking for good things to happen this year."

UTB/TSC's home opener will take place at noon Feb. 9 against Galveston College.

and defense that his team possesses.

"We are going to rely on our baseball skills like moving the runners over, and if we get the big hit, we get the big hit," Gonzalez said. "Although we have a couple of guys that can hit home runs, we're just going to play baseball."

The one thing Gonzalez will try to avoid is letting players swing away on hitter's counts.

"I have a couple of guys who will get the 'green light,' but some guys can't handle that because they will swing at everything," Gonzalez said.



Coach Eric Gonzalez looks on as some of his players run drills during practice last week.

ALDO ALONZO/UTB/TSC

The Rookie's Rundown

By Alex Rivera
Staff Writer



Hey there, Collegian readers. In case you haven't noticed, this week's issue is brought to you by the Rookie. Now I may lack Trey's writing talent and boyish good looks but at least I have a sense of humor and a great awareness that the Cubs won't go all the way this year. Hey Cubs fans, don't be mad—I feel the same way. Every year I think this is the "Boys year" (Dallas).

Instead of talking about anything that comes into my deranged mind, I'm going to try to organize my thoughts.

Let's start with the NFL because we are almost at the end of the season. The main thing to hit the headlines was the fact Tony Dungy, Tampa Bay's former coach, is now the man at Indianapolis. We all know the Colts have a great offense and lackluster defense. Luckily for them, Dungy is the master at building defenses (he had them, at Minnesota and Tampa). For those of you who don't know much about football, it means that another guy got a job and is coming more money than most of us will make in a lifetime. Ah, c'est la vie.

On a sadder note, the NFL's best team is breaking up after

21 years of broadcasting. John Madden and Pat Summerall are parting ways after they announce Super Bowl XXXVII in New Orleans. Summerall said he would like to continue to broadcast. For now, I guess FOX will have to find someone who can tolerate Madden's booms, boons, poms and the occasional teletexting of fat linemen's sweaty pants. Good luck to whoever gets that job!

Scorecard readers must know by now that the Meister went 0 for 4 on his predictions last week. Now the Rookie will try to best him and pick the winners. For the AFC championship, I will finally listen to Fredo Norbeto. The Collegian ad sales rep and resident psychic, who has been saying all year the Steelers are going all the way. Then again, Fredo does like the Boston Celtics. Hmm. I like the Steelers over the Patriots in the AFC championship game, 35-31. In the NFC, I don't like the Eagles so I look for the Rams to win big. I don't care much for either of these teams, but I hope the Super Bowl is a good game and not a blowout.

Intramurals Schedule

Date	Event
Today	Basketball Free-Throw Shoot
Feb. 4-6	Basketball Tournament
Feb. 11	Pingpong Singles
Feb. 18	Pingpong Doubles

All events will take place at 2 p.m. in the Garza Gym. For more information, call 544-8290.



Athlete of the Week

By Trey Mendez
Sports Editor

Name: Marcus Townsend
Sport: Baseball
Position: Outfielder
Classification: Sophomore
High School: Waller High School, Houston
Major: Undecided
Started playing baseball:

at age 9. "My father and my grandfather both played. Otherwise I might have quit and just played football and basketball."

Aspirations: "I want to make it to the pros and be competitive."

On hitting home runs:

"The ideal number for me would be to bat over .350. If I do that, then my home runs will be there. That's not something you can really worry about in baseball."

Role models in baseball: "A person that I would compare myself to, or that I like a lot is [Montreal Expos outfielder] Vladimir Guerrero. He has an arm, speed and everything it takes."



The blue light of happiness

By Lenore Skenazy
New York Daily News

Attention, Kmart shoppers!

If you, like me, can think of no better place to buy Elmo undies, \$7 slippers and delectable Little Debbie cakes coated with paper-thin artificial fudge, you will agree: Kmart is an American institution.

It must live to sell another mummum.

And yet, it seems, the blue-light behemoth is in trouble up to its Nerf balls. Last week it appointed a new chairman—unfortunately, a bankruptcy expert—in a desperate attempt to save the 2,100-store chain from being squeezed to death by Wal-Mart and Target: Wal-Mart being huge and cheap, Kmart being chic and cheap, Kmart being sloppy, spotty, understocked, over the hill.

And cheap. Not to mention boasting checkout lines longer than most parades.

Still, there must be something compelling about the place, because I find myself there all the time and so do my friends.

"Anything you might need, you find there," says Karen Vernon, 25, a secretary whose digs are decorated in late '90s Kmart.

"It's got real basic things for the kids," adds another pal, Marla. "And it's got great deals, even on food. I once bought an 8-pound can of coffee there, but I wasn't going directly home, so I ended up carrying around this huge can of coffee."

Yeah, yeah. Look, a bargain's a bargain. No complaining. And, frankly, we have Kmart to thank for the very idea of—hallelujah!—giant discount stores.

Kmart began as S.S. Kresge's, the nation's No. 2 discount store. By the 1950s, it was smart enough to realize the days of the five-and-ten were numbered—or at least had only a mere half century to go. So in '58, Kresge's

opened its first discount department store.

As if it wasn't exciting enough to find off-price bras, bibs and barbecues all under the same roof, Kmart went on to give its shoppers the thrill of the Blue Light Special. This was the bright idea of the manager at the Fort Wayne, Ind., Kmart in 1965. Anxious to sell leftover Christmas wrapping, he dragged a flashing police light to the department and gave shoppers only 15 minutes to grab all the outdated paper products they could. Only 15 minutes! Outta my way!

Six months later the Blue Light Special was part of Kmart karma nationwide.

The famous light's career went on to mirror John Travolta's. After some exciting years in the '70s, it disappeared, only to resurface a few years back—and fizzle anew. Thursday morning at the Kmart near me, for instance, the blue-lit men's jackets attracted only one paying customer.

Same as that star vehicle "Swordfish."

So granted, the stores (and Mr. Travolta) need some kind of boost. It wouldn't hurt if they managed to untangle the slacks in the toddler department, which have morphed into one giant hald. And, frankly, being followed around the store by a guy missing his front teeth and insisting, "I am the president of Kmart!" did not add a whole lot of positive energy to my shopping experience.

Still, many of us have never fully recovered from the death of Woolworth's. Sweat breaks out when we find ourselves in need of a sewing kit, slip or ceramic figurine of a farm girl holding a goose. If Kmart goes, our sanity—and budget—could well go with it.

So, please, don't let the blue light go out!

And while we're at it, don't let Mr. Swedish choose his own scripts, either.

Viewpoint



Student Soapbox

In a new relationship, how many dinners should a man pay before the woman does?

"Before she becomes your wife, the man has to pay for everything. Once she becomes your wife, it doesn't matter because it's the same money."

—Edi Delgado
Sophomore electrical engineer major

"I say twice, because in my relationship with my girlfriend, I would pick up the tab, but by the second

time, she grabbed it. I would tell her I got it, but she would say no and then she said that the way our relationship would work out is by having me pay one tab and she would pay the other. It also depends on who you're with because she's very independent."

—Edward Camarillo
Senior education major

"Well, [the men] should

pay because if [men] are going to be dating or going out with someone, they're supposed to know how to earn their money, they are supposed to know that they are going to be dating if they have a woman or a lady in their lives."

—Maria Delgado
Senior sociology major

—Compiled by Josie Chávez

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters for *The Collegian* can be sent to:

The Collegian
Student Center
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, Texas 78220
e-mail: collegian@utb.tn.edu
phone: (956) 544-8263
fax: (956) 544-3836

All letters must be typed, saved on disk and no longer than 250 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter writer or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Collegian or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and content.

The Collegian

The Collegian is the student newspaper serving The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of more than 9,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

Collegian Editor — John Strubelt
Managing Editor — Delores Ortiz

Sports Editor — Trey Mendler
Advertising Representative —

Arnie Gutierrez, Alizada Norberto, Patricia Ramirez

Staff Writers — Yessia Hamilton, Eric Chavez, Lily Kornee, Elizabeth Narquez, A.D. Rocha

Graphic Artist — Yessia Rodriguez

Photographers — Chris Aguilar, Adam Rivers, Ramon Villarreal
Student Publications Coordinator — Annette Corrao

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Relationships 101

She's tired of his broken promises

By Dr. Mark Goulston

Knight-Ridder/Tribune

New Service

Dear Dr. Mark: My boyfriend tells me how terrific I am and that he wants us to stay together forever or that he wants to move in together or to do something special for Easter and summer vacation. He seems sincere when he makes these promises, but whenever I bring up any of these promises he tells me to back off and stop pressuring him. As much as I like hearing them, I never ask him to make any of these promises in the first place. What should I do?

BROKEN PROMISES AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Dear Broken: Guys (or for that matter girls) make easy offerings for several different reasons:

- 1) They're trying to hold on to you and feel that unless they stack the deck with promises, they're not desirable enough to keep you.
- 2) They feel a passionate rush of love and want to reward you by promising you the moon.

3) They're a bit manic and feeling so powerful that they believe in the moment they make the promise that they can do anything.

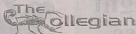
4) They're trying to get you off their back by throwing you a future gift.

5) They're trying to get you on your back, as in bed, and are sweet-talking you to convince you that they really care.

Regardless of the reason, here's one suggestion that you can use for any of the situations: When your guy breaks promises, don't let him make promises. Next time he promises you something, tell him with a smile on your face: "Oops, I didn't just hear that. You know, if you're going to promise me something, it works best for me if I don't tell me until the actual wheels are in motion for it to come true. Otherwise, you know what a pest I can make of myself."

That shows a lot of poise and more importantly, it's a way of feeling like you still have some control instead of him being the one calling the shots.

Send your questions to Dr. Mark at mgoulsto@bucla.edu.



Have we got news for you!

About our newspaper

The Collegian serves the 9,000 students, faculty and staff of the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

The Student Publications Office publishes The Collegian each Monday in the fall and spring semesters, except during holidays and exams. Approximately 5,000 copies of each issue are distributed on campus and at Brownsville's public high schools.

The Collegian is an award-winning member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

Staff

John Strubert, editor of The Collegian
Azuceta Cornejo, Student Publications coordinator

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Full Page 10 x 12.5" \$250	Half Page 10 x 6.25" \$125
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A&E Brief

The "Hradec Kralove" Male Chorus of the Czech Republic will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 5 at St. Mary's Church, 1914 Barnard. Known for its prized performances throughout Europe, the choir is directed by Jan Misk, composer and award-winning conductor. General admission is \$10 and \$3 for UTB/TSC students with valid ID.



GOT A NEW FLAME?



Before Collegian Love Lines



After Collegian Love Lines

Let the one you love know you're burning for them by using the often imitated but never duplicated Collegian Love Lines.

\$2.50 per greeting (25 words maximum)
Publication date: Monday, Feb. 11

Deadline: 5 p.m. Feb. 4. For more information, call 544-8263.

Let us be your Cupid!



Helpful Collegian Cupid

Write your message here (please print):

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Movie a choice
4 Occupation: the
11 Card game to
12 The place
14 Math term
15 - like
17 Latin
18 Good for nothing
20 Children leader
(ent. sig.)
22 Latin
23 Soldier
24 Star's partner
25 Her mother
34 - conductor
35 Musical
36 Actor
37 In the past
40 Resisting the
41 Cullen's
42 Lady
44 Adult
45 Mink
46 High points
47 Party
50 Living in the past
51 Head-on
52 Musical safety
53 Engage in a
54 Central control of
55 Stage
56 Success down
57 Undivided
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59 Design
60 Actor
61 Right to enter
71 Come closer

DOWN

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4 Lower
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7 Dalmatian
8 Fight venue
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Solutions

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4. Doctor
11. Bridge
12. Place
14. Term
15. Like
17. Latin
18. Good for nothing
20. Children leader
(ent. sig.)
22. Latin
23. Soldier
24. Star's partner
25. Her mother
34. Conductor
35. Musical
36. Actor
37. In the past
40. Resisting the
41. Cullen's
42. Lady
44. Adult
45. Mink
46. High points
47. Party
50. Living in the past
51. Head-on
52. Musical safety
53. Engage in a
54. Central control of
55. Stage
56. Success down
57. Undivided
58. Now
59. Design
60. Actor
61. Right to enter
71. Come closer

THE ENLIGHTENED ONES



TELL YOU WHAT TO
DO...

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Lay off the buenos con churros breakfast tacos from the gas station. No wonder nobody sits behind you in class.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Ex-Lax and orange juice are not a good weight-loss medium; you need to be a little more level-headed today.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Freshman Tip No. 8: Attend a "How to Dance the Macarena in Front of Your Professor" workshop for extra credit.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will receive tickets to see the hottest band of the year. Sadly that year is 1975, so the band is The Bay City Rollers.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You need to take life as it comes, and not be in a rush to shape a life what you think is a perfect one; treat it as the beautiful flower that it is.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Here's a suggestion, chill out!

Aries (March 21-April 19): You will be visited by

someone claiming to be the tooth fairy this week. Last I checked, the tooth fairy wasn't a wino offering you two bucks and a tailfin for your bicuspid.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Valentine's Day is getting close, so start saving for flowers and dinner to give to that no-good ingrate who will only rip your heart out and spit on it. Can you sell I just broke up?

Gemini (May 21-June 21): OK, going to McAllen is not considered traveling upstate.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): Remember what Grandma said, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away, but just in case, I keep a cat on my tail if the dude gets too close."

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Contrary to popular belief, a tap-dancing Gary Coleman would not be good entertainment for the May graduation ceremony.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I don't know, you don't know, no one knows so stop wondering.

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Scorpion Baseball Camp, Jan. 18-19

Field of Dreams



Scorpion pitching coach Kiki Treviño shows Fernando Urias the proper way to grip a baseball.



Coach Eric Gonzalez talks to participants in the Scorpion Baseball Camp, held Jan. 18-19. "The purpose of the camp was to teach kids the proper mechanics at a young age," Gonzalez said. "Hopefully, they will become better players in the future."



Two-year-old Eric Gonzalez prepares to take a swing at a tee up baseball.



Six-year-old Jesus Torres gets tips from Freshman Scorpion pitcher Dominic Bryce Capeheart, who is helping him throw a baseball.



Kyle Walker (from left), Justin Richardson, and Mathew Reed listen closely to instruction given by UTB/TSC Scorpion coaches and players.

Photos by Chris Aguilar